

6310 Chapel Hill Rd.
Borden IN 47106-9101
June 3, 2021

USPS Commission
901 New York Ave. NW
Washington DC 20268

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To The Commission:

I am writing today to tell you how important the USPS is to me. We live in a rural area of Southern Indiana. High speed internet access has yet to come to our part of the world. Even if it does, one day, I will still prefer to write letters, with a pen, on paper, with a beautiful postage stamp affixed to the envelope. Am I a relic of the past and doomed to silence?

During the pandemic, I have written at least 5 notes or letters a day to folks living alone, in nursing homes, suffering from physical problems and in some cases, life-threatening depression. Some people are not able to answer my letters but the ones who can, write back to ask that I keep writing. Finding a letter in their mail boxes helps keep them going. The letters are a vital link to another human who is thinking of them and who is caring about them. It is also my way of keeping in touch with children, grandchildren, friends, cousins who live far away.

Our mail carrier is wonderful. During all the months of isolation, Debbie was our link to the world - a friendly, concerned face. Her old Jeep with the red flag flying making its way up our gravel road was (and still is) such a welcomed sight.

However, in the past few years, we have seen mail delivery slowed. A letter sent to our daughter and her family in St. Paul, MN usually takes over a week to reach them. Birthday cards sent to people two weeks early,

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Sometimes arrive past those important days. It really seems as if first class mail is not a high priority with the commission. Trucking mail across long distances instead of flying it is bound to slow delivery. To someone like me who counts on reliable, efficient service, this slow-down seems a deliberate effort to discourage first class use.

There are other problems with the running of the USPS which are less obvious to me as a postal service customer. I do not understand why these issues will not be addressed by the commission. The obvious, long-term results will be the end of a valued service, rooted in the history of our country and a much-needed link between its citizens. Please assure me that weakening the USPS is not the nefarious intention of the commission but that strengthening it is your goal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gwen McVicker McMahon



Ms. Gwen McMahon
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